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Scandinavian Centre News

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OPTION NOT TO BE EXERCISED

One hundred and two shareholders registered at the Annual General Meeting held at the Mayfield Inn on Wednesday, March 3rd, at 8:00 p.m., to review 1981 activities and give direction for the coming year.

Following adoption of the minutes of the two general meetings held in 1981, the Directors' Report for the year was read and discussed by the shareholders present.

The financial report was given by auditor, D. Peterson, followed by a question and answer period.

Building Committee Chairman, H. Haugen, reported on the activities of that committee and a Finance Committee report was given by chairman D. Peterson. Architects Barry Johns and Allan Partridge gave an interestng slide presentation on the development of a tentative design, but pointed out that they have been working on the project for only a short time.

It was moved and carried by the meeting that the Board of Directors not exercise the option on the parcel at 171 Street and 101 Avenue, since it was felt to be too small. They will now look at larger properties in the area.

On behalf of the Ways & Means Committee, Gary Johnson outlined that committee's recommendations with regard to fund-raising.

There was a great deal of discussion on the building project and also on preferred shares.

The long meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

ANOTHER LIVELY FESTIVAL SEASON

Finland, of all European nations, has a distinctive character of its own, a modern, democratic destination, where most people speak English. The attractions, both natural and man-made, are singular and interesting enough, historically or in design, to keep you from ever becoming bored. Restaurants are rated among the best you can find on the Continent and nightlife glitters in hotel ballrooms, discos and nightclubs. Shopping in the charming boutiques along tree-lined streets, parks and boulevards, allows visitors to discover some of the world acclaimed creations of Finnish designers in textiles, ceramics, glassware, furs, jewelry and other national products.

But it is the amount and quality of entertainment that is one of the biggest draws. No tourist, no matter what his preference, will lack entertainment. From June to September the whole country echoes the sound of music. Eleven major festivals keep things humming.

It was about 15 years ago that the idea for a summer season of cultural events was originated. The primary reason was to interest tourists in visiting the country, giving Finland a chance to show off its diversified topography (the 11 festivals are presented in as many different parts of the land), to give visitors a chance to become acquainted with the Finnish people, their life style and their achievements; most of all to enjoy some of the best native and international talent culled from all the arts. The festivals would also provide summer entertainment for the Finnish people themselves.

The program now ranges from grand opera productions in the courtyard of a medieval castle to concerts of classical, folk, jazz, rock and western music; from folk and ballet dancing to modern, avant garde and ballroom. There are theatrical presentations also, one in a unique outdoor setting, in Pyynikki Park in the city of Tampere, with the audience seated in a bowl-like auditorium that revolves in a 360 degree circle following the action of the play. The park forms the natural backdrop for the play's action.

A number of rock and pop concerts are given outdoors, a number in streets and parks; others take place in hotels and restaurants. You don't have to look far for art or sculpture exhibits. They can be found in museums, churches and outdoors, too. The nice thing about Finns, they don't forget children. For them there are plays and puppet shows; art exhibits prepared by children for children. Other amusements are also part of the festival entertainment. A lot of the events in parks and streets are free.

The best part is there is entertainment for all. If anyone returns home from Finland without having had the time of his (or her) life, then it's their own fault. The country selects only artists of stellar stature, both Finnish and international, for the Festivals. In addition to the pleasure the cultural fare adds to your vacation, it gives you a chance to mix and mingle with the Finns, a delightful and welcome experience in itself.

GRAND OPERA IN MEDIEVAL SETTING: The stone walls and stairs of Olavinlinna Castle in Savonlinna, Finland, form the backdrop for the annual summer opera festival presented from July 4 to 25, 1982 in a dramatic setting of the castle's courtyard. On the largest stage in Finland (above) can be seen the chorus of the opera "Don Carlos", part of the full orchestra and some of the international audience of 2,500 people who attend. (Photo credit: Finland National Tourist Office)

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DIRECTORS' REPORT
MARCH 3, 1982

The Board of Directors has met 21 times since the last Annual Meeting on March 17, 1981, in order to proceed with the decisions made at that meeting and at the Special General Meeting held on May 20, 1981. The following will detail for you the events of the year.

On April 30, 1981, we received the final payment of $296,665.53 on the old Centre property at 142 Street and the Yellowhead Trail, enabling us to pay the balance of our loan on the downtown land. The purchasers served notice that they would require possession on September 1st, and on September 3rd we had completed the move. Our furniture and equipment was put in storage in a facility at Winterburn at a cost of $285.00 per month, and we moved to an office we were able to sublet at 17614 - 107 Avenue at a cost of $480.00 per month.

At the conclusion of Jens Gron's contract at the end of December, 1981, the Board decided to keep him on staff with a great variety of duties, including responsibility for coordinating share sales. As of February 1st, the van was put in storage in order to save money through reduction of insurance costs, as well as wear and tear.

The option to buy the City-owned property at 95 Street and 42 Avenue was signed and became effective March 19, 1981, the date of exercise being July 19, 1981, and the necessary option payment of $103,916.42 was made. On May 5th application was made for a development permit, and much to our surprise, it was refused. While we immediately applied to be heard by the Development Appeal Board, since it takes a month from the date of an application to be heard, we also immediately met with A. Savage, the Commissioner under whom the Planning Department fell, in an effort to reverse this decision quickly, but Mr. Savage would not intervene. We therefore had no choice but to appear before the D.A.B. on June 5th, and on that date we were given verbal approval. In early May the selective tenders were in, and the lowest bid was $2,691,456.00.

On July 8th, however, the Board received and acted on a report from the Finance Committee recommending that we terminate our option because we were not in a position to finance the costs which had increased dramatically during the delays forced on us by the City. Additional costs for winter construction were now also necessary, adding another $40,000 to $60,000 to building costs. We had no choice but to follow the recommendation, and we so informed the City of Edmonton immediately, even though we could have delayed such notification until July 19th. At the same time we wrote to City Council requesting the return of our option payment, since in our view they were directly responsible for the predicament in which we found ourselves.

Over the next three months conversations were held with various aldermen and the mayor, and we were represented at the Economic Affairs Committee to which the matter had been referred by Council. In late October we received the return of $96,798.22, the City stating that the balance was retained to cover out-of-pocket costs: $1,000 documentation, and $6,118.20 cost to the City of amortizing local improvements during the four-month option period. We take this opportunity to thank those shareholders who phoned their aldermen or the mayor in support of our position, and the Board does not feel that any of the amount should have been kept by the City of Edmonton.

It was apparent that we were going to now have to scale our new Centre down considerably to meet new economic conditions, and with that in mind we began a search for suitable property immediately. We looked at a great many possibilities, including buildings for sale which might be renovated, bearing in mind that the minimum zoning in which we could locate was IB. We looked at leasing, and combinations of lease and purchase; we also at their request, investigated the possibility of sharing the new Elks' Club facility in some way. We also searched extensively for a restaurant which might provide a suitable interim solution to some of our problems, but were unable to find one which was feasible. Buying our own land and building our own Centre was the Board's decision, and we ultimately decided on 1.48 acres at 171 Street and 101 Avenue, for which the owner was asking $575,000. After negotiation we optioned the land for $1,000, the purchase price to be $500,000 on the date of exercise, March 15, 1982. On the recommendation of the Building Committee it was decided that the project would be placed with Norman Nilsen Construction on a contract management basis. Now that we have solidified plans to present to prospective shareholders, an organized fund-raising campaign will be established and commenced in the near future.

The listing of the downtown property with Knowlton Realty expired at the end of May, 1981, and the Board decided that they would not list it again, but would endeavour to sell it themselves. We also made it known to a number of commercial realty firms that it was for sale. On February 4, 1982, we received an offer through Weber Real Estate which the Board accepted. The selling price is $850,000; $25,000 has been deposited, $175,000 is to be paid on April 1, 1982, and the balance is payable over a period of five years at 12%. This schedule means that we will approximately break even on the property, and it will, of course, greatly facilitate the financing on our new building.

After approval of the issue of 4,000 Preferred Shares at the Special General Meeting held May 20, 1981, the redemption value of these shares was set by the Board at $400.00 each, and the necessary documentation and application for provincial government approval was set in motion. On July 21, 1981, we finally received the approval and the necessary letter and form as outlined by our solicitors were made up and printed, and the enormous job of getting these out to every shareholder at the last known address was begun. These were mailed during the first week of October. Although the original deadline had been set at November 11, 1981, it soon became apparent that post office operations were going to cause problems, and the Board extended the deadline to November 30, 1981. When the smoke had cleared 1,028 preferred shares had been subscribed for. To date 3,458 common shares have been issued, and we have a total number of 2,765 shareholders.

Heritage Days in 1981 was a tremendous success as a result of two things: organization and cooperation. Our thanks to all five groups for the effort they put in, and our congratulations on the results they achieved. We are grateful to Susanne Balslov, Chairman of the Heritage Days Committee, and the members of that committee for their excellent planning.

This January we received a generous gift from television station ITV — a large Viking ship which was built by them for an SCTV segment at a cost of $17,000. A 'Boat Committee' was immediately formed, consisting of Astrid Hope, Harvey Haugen, Susanne Balslov, Per Nielsen and Pentti Sipari — and Daon Development Corporation very kindly donated storage space. It does not float, but with the approval of the Board the longboat is to be refurbished and fitted with the mechanics to enable it to be self-propelled. Suitable Viking costumes are to be made up, and plans are to enter it in the Klondike Days parade, and use it as a central theme for our Heritage Days production in 1982, as well as for any event which takes place in the future.

At the Annual General Meeting on March 17, 1981, a Nominating Committee was appointed consisting of Ken Domier, Anne Sahuri, Ray Nyroos, Leif Oddson and Paul Zimmer. It now appears, however, that with the reduction of the size of the Board which was passed at the annual meeting in 1979, some confusion resulted with regard to vacancies in the ensuing years' annual meetings. This year we therefore find that none of the terms of the present Directors expires until the end of 1982. Adjustments will be made to terms of office at next year's annual meeting so that vacancies

Continued on Page 3

DIRECTORS REPORT

Continued from Page 2

will occur each year, as should be the case. We would therefore ask that the above members agree to act as the Nominating Committee for next year's annual meeting.

As of the end of February Jens Gron is no longer in our employ; with a new Centre being some months down the road yet there was really no work for a chef at this time.

It has been a year of hard work and great disappointment, but we are looking forward now to opening a new Scandinavian Centre before the end of the year with your support.

Respectfully submitted,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE

SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

by Betty Broen

COMING EVENTS:
April 17 — Kon Tiki Night - Ottewell Community Hall, 5920 - 93A Avenue
May 12 — General Meeting - Lions' Sr. Citizens' Centre
May 14 — Syttende Mae Dance - McLeod Community Centre, 14715 - 59 Street
May 17 — Flag-Raising Ceremony - City Hall - 10:00 a.m.
June 11-13 — St. Hans Fest - Lac St. Cyr
September — Western Dance
October & November — Undecided
November — Election of Officers

* * * * *

It was decided that, because of the high cost of postage, newsletters would be made up fewer times during the year.

* * * * *

The family of Betty and Myrle Travis will gather on May 29th for the wedding of son Jim to Edmontonian Tina Mayhew. The newest member of the family is Laura Travis, born October 19, 1981, to Wes and Marion. Congratulations.

* * * * *

Family and friends gathered at the home of Orla and Svend Tychsen on March 14th to wish bon voyage to daughter Randy on the eve of her departure for France for an extended stay.

* * * * *

Nadine Veis, daughter of Elva and Ed Veis, was a winner at the North East District Community League Talent Show, and with her Jazz Dance Group will proceed to the Edmonton Federation of Communities Leagues' Talent Show. Congratulations, Nadine.

* * * * *

Mary and Arne Gulbrandsen of Lantzville, B.C., recently visited family and friends in Edmonton.

* * * * *

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Nels Skarbo who died very suddenly on March 1st; he will be missed by all who knew him.

* * * * *

Barbara Broen, daughter of Wally and Betty Broen, joined the Alberta junior cross-country ski racing team on their February trip to Manitoba to compete in the Western Cup races at the Pas, and the Shell Cup junior national competition in Flin Flon. The team had a successful tour, travelling by van and returning home safely.

* * * * *

Seen at the Sports Weekend banquet were two of our ladies looking very chic in knickers. It was like old times at the Sunday morning brunch, with Borge Velling stirring the scrambled eggs in the kitchen.

* * * * *

Recent travellers were Betty McKevitt, who holidayed in Palm Springs, and Chris Dreyer, who enjoyed a trip to Hawaii.

* * * * *

Don't forget Kon Tiki Night on April 17th. Phone Gail Peterson or Kay Olafson for tickets.

Finnish Footnotes

by Anja Sahuri

The Annual cross country skiing competition was held on Feb. 21, 1982 at lower Gold Bar Park, with a record of about sixty people present. Some were competing, some watching and some working to make the event possible. The day was beautiful and everyone enjoyed the fresh air. The results are as follows:

LADIES —
1st. Sylvi Kankkunen
2nd. Kaarina Leino
3rd. Britta Karsten

MEN —
1st. Heikki Laitine
2nd. Markku Erkvaara
3rd. Andy Kankkunen

SENIOR MEN —
1st. Pentti Sipari (is he a senior?)
2nd. Aaare Wahlberg
3rd. Tony Leino

BOYS —
1st. Erik Thurlin

Congratulations to all winners!

* * * * *

Congratulations to Sylvi Kankkunen who won the womens' ski race at Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, at their Winter Festival on Feb. 28, 1982.

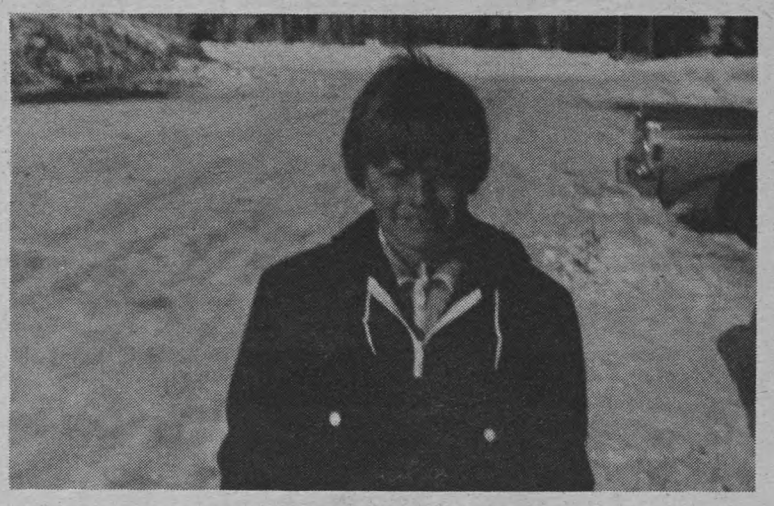
* * * * *

Our sincere sympathies are expressed to the family of John Iikka Jaakkola, who passed away at age 36 on Mar. 10, 1982 at Edmonton, Alberta. He leaves to mourn him his loving wife Julie, his mother Sisko Jaakkola of Vancouver, his sister Eija and her family in Vancouver and his Sister Silja (Mrs. Bruno Spenrath) and her family in Edmonton.

"And only The Master shall praise us,
and only The Master shall blame;
And no one shall work for money
and no one shall work for fame.
But each for the joy of the working,
and each, in his separate star,
shall draw the Thing as he sees It
for the God of Things as They are!"

* * * * *

Winners Pentti Sipari and Heikki Laitinen



Winner Erik Thurlin

Winner Sylvi Kankkunen

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VASA LODGE SKANDIA

by Don Samuelson

February was a busy month, and the Winter Weekend closed it off successfully. The weather was a little on the cold side, and the snow was pretty deep. Congratulations to Jim Knutson, Julie Pearson and Neil Samuelson for their excellent organization of this event, and thanks to all those members who helped.

* * * * *

The annual Scandinavian Centre shareholders' meeting was held on March 3rd, and it was good to see so many Vasa members present. I feel that the Centre Board can now proceed with the confidence of the majority to build a new Centre.

* * * * *

The last lodge meeting was one of the longest I have ever attended. What was to be accomplished, was.

* * * * *

Sonja Sund, Astrid Winquist and Randy and Trudy Watson were in Maui for part of February, visiting with Ernie and Rene Hokanson.

* * * * *

Evelyn and Willard Modin recently returned from Phoenix where they visited Erlund and Ethel Markstrom.

* * * * *

On February 11th France and Joyce Salerno became the proud parents of a baby boy, Kristopher William Joseph. The overjoyed grandparents are Bill and Martha Kay.

* * * * *

On March 9th Don and Marj Samuelson also became the parents of a bouncing baby boy, Shannon Adam. Proud grandparents are Roy and Charlotte Samuelson; Godparents are Milton and Virgie Fawcett.

* * * * *

The April 5th meeting will see the initiation of new members, and the Sunshine Singers will be performing after the meeting.

* * * * *

The May 1st meeting will be held at Pigeon Lake with a pot-luck supper prepared by the talented and gifted hands of the Lodge brothers. Always interesting.

HONOURARY MEMBER INITIATED

by Ninna Campbell

Freda Smith and Gudbjorg (Berky) Letourneau greeted the guests when the Icelandic Society of Edmonton celebrated Thorrablot 1982 at the Club Mocambo on February 27th.

A social hour followed; greetings were exchanged, old friendships renewed, and new members welcomed in a spirit of fellowship.

The festivities of the evening began with the entrance of the Fjallkona, Bernice Anderson of Markerville, to the strains of the National Anthems "Oh Canada" and "O Gud Vors Lands". President Solli Sigurdson welcomed the guests and asked them to take their places at the banquet tables which were designated by the names of Norse gods.

TOAST TO THORRI:

Master of Ceremonies Al Arnason gave a brief outline of the significance of Thorrablot and its relationship to the Norse god Thorri. The Fjallkona then designated Steinunn Unnsteinsdottir to propose the toast to Thorri, and Arni MacPherson proposed a toast to the Norse goddess Freyja. Guests then participated in a dinner featuring hangikjot, rullupylsa, skyr and vinarterta.

INITIATION:

Following the meal, Jane McCracken of the Alberta Department of Culture, who is in charge of the Stephansson project, was made a Honourary Member of the Icelandic Society. The initiation ceremony was directed by Ninna Campbell and featured eating Icelandic hardfish, followed by a draught of brennivin from a Viking drinking horn.

ICELANDIC MEDLEY:

The principal entertainment of the evening consisted of a medley of Icelandic folk-songs by Solli Sigurdson, who gave explanatory anecdotes relating to the individual songs. This was a most enjoyable presentation and was greatly appreciated by the guests.

The evening's festivities concluded with a dance. Kvoldkaffi (with kleinur and vinarterta) was served at midnight.

NELS SKARBO

On March 1st, 1982, Nels Skarbo died suddenly from a heart attack.

Nels was born in Langevag, Norway, in 1918, the oldest of three boys. He came to Canada with his family at seven years of age, arriving in Montreal. He joined the Canadian Army when World War 11 broke out and was sent to England where he met his future wife, Cynthia. Cynthia came to Canada as a war bride, and the Skarbos have resided here ever since. Nels was a member of Solglyt Lodge, Sons of Norway, for the past ten years. He was active in bowling, and will be missed by his many friends.

Nels leaves his wife, Cynthia; a daughter, Ingrid (Mrs. Robert Bieganek)of Wetaskiwin; two sons--Terry of Fruitvale, B.C., and Robin of Edmonton; and seven grandchildren. He also leaves his mother, Joanne, of Edmonton; one brother, Arne, of Osoyoos, B.C.; and three sisters--Irene of Devon, Judith of Kelowna, and Anna of Saudi Arabia.

DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED

The Board of Directors is grateful to the following shareholders for their donations to this newspaper:

Martin Petersen
Molly Cooper
Mrs. E.M. Rensaa
Olaf Sveen
Ove Andersen
Leona Anderson

We sincerely appreciate any donation you can make towards the very high cost of publishing the newspaper.

ACCORDIONMAN

by Olaf Sveen

It is now official that the last Lawrence Welk Show was taped at the end of February, so in the future we will be seeing nothing but re-runs. For many of us this seems a shame. Lawrence Welk has had several books published about himself and his life in music, and now his right-hand man, Myron Floren, has had his saga published in a book called "Accordionman".

We find that he is of Norwegian descent, his people came from Stjordal north of Trondheim. He was born on a farm in South Dakota, but does not say when. He was the oldest of seven brothers and sisters, and he has nothing but good memories of the farm; he even says he got his fast accordion-fingers from milking cows at an early age.

During the Second World War he was already in show-business and was sent overseas to entertain the troops. When the war was over he decided to get married, but he was low on funds. He applied for a loan to buy a house, but was turned down because he belonged to a trade that was a bad risk. The company he tried to get the money from had a list of 43 trades, beginning with the best and ending with the poorest risks: Musician was number 42 on the list, and because he played the accordion he was probably 42 minus. But later, when he started playing for Lawrence Welk, things got better. He made more money and was able to buy a house without difficulty.

Floren tells about his over thirty years with Lawrence Welk. Some critics did not have good things to say about the show, but Welk said: "as long as they spell my name right, I don't care what they write".

Myron Floren has had his troubles too. He once had a near-fatal bout with rheumatic fever. Not too long ago he battled with SBE, an infection often fatal unless treated with penicillin, and Floren is allergic to penicillin. A new drug that had just come on the market three weeks earlier saved his life.

Floren lives a busy life; besides appearing on the Lawrence Welk Show, he makes about 170 personal appearances a year. To quote what has been said about the book: "Accordionman" is the heartwarming story of a man who is true to himself and to his great gift of music.

And let us hope that the Lawrence Welk Show is not finished forever, but will somehow reappear. I was lucky enough to see the show on stage, and it was unforgettable.

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DANIA DOINGS

by the Board of Directors, Dania

SPRING SUPPER AND DANCE

It is that time of the year, when the grass wants to see daylight, the willows are waiting to unfold their fuzzy white pussywillows, and Danes are anxiously awaiting snowmelt. What better way to unfold your impatience with a long cold winter than to unwind at Dania's Spring Supper and Dance. We have a real humdinger lined up for you this time!

DANIA SPRING SUPPER AND DANCE

Saturday, April 17, 1982

BELVEDERE COMMUNITY HALL

13223 - 62 Street

Cocktails -- 6:00 p.m.
Supper -- 7:00 p.m.
a. Pickled and curried herring
b. Variety of smorrebrod
c. Assorted cheese table
Entertainment by EVERGREEN — 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Tickets available from: Vera Nielsen (454-5438)
Lili Nielsen (435-5655)

Tickets -- $25.00 (non-members)
$23.00 (members)

* * * * * *

DANMARK SET FRA EDMONTON

by Helge Krogh

DANMARK HAR DEVALUERET KRONEN med 3 procent. Regeringen havde onsket en 7 procent devaluering, men det ville Danmarks EF-partnere ikke gaa med til. Okonomiminister Ivar Norgaard siger, at nedskrivningen af kronen giver dansk industri en konkurrence-fordel paa eksportmarkederne. Nedskrivningen betyder, at man nu faar omkring 6.45 kroner for en canadisk dollar.

304.500 DANSKERE VAR ARBEJDSLOSE ved opgorelsen i sidste auge, fortaller Danmarks Kortbolgeradio. Det er 31.800 flere end paa samme tid sidste aar.

DER SKAL SPARES i den danske hverdag. Antallet af de saakaldte discount-butikker blev tre-doblet i 1981, oplyser Danmarks Radio. Discount-butikkeren er lav-lav-pris-supermarkeder med minimal service og betjening. Kunderne maa selv bringe barerposer og embalage og der er ingen udsmykning i forretningerne. Mens almindelige supermarkeder tilbyder 4000 varernumre har discount-butikken kun 500. Alligevel omsatter en gennemsnits discount-butik for 17 millioner kroner om aaret, mens et normalt supermarked omsatter for 19 millioner. Der er nu over 100 af de nye lav-lav-pris supermarkerder i Danmark, og der er mange flere paa vej.

* * * * *

JUBILAEUMS SNAPS PROMOTION IN EDMONTON

De Danske Spritfabrikker, (more precisely, Danisco Ltd.) sponsored a promotion in Edmonton for the famous dill-flavoured Jubilaeums Akvavit. The event, held on March 2, 1982, at the Westin Hotel in cooperation with the Danish Trade Commission and Hudson's Bay Distillers Limited, was attended by Dania's Secretary and President. And what a promotion it was! Danisco Ltd., the exporters of Aalborg Akvavit, held the event entitled "Danefests" in Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver to celebrate a Danish lifestyle and tradition. Guest of honour, from Denmark, was the very distinguished Mr. Ole Damgaard-Nielsen, Managing Director of Danisco Ltd. Representatives of Hudson's Bay Distillers Limited were Don Arnett, Bill Thompson and Doug McLean. In addition, Leif Haughstad, Danish Trade Commissioner, and Margaret Swaine, The Taste Guild Inc., were special attendees. The evening consisted of a few tasteful speeches, numerous snaps (which also were tasteful!), a spectacular variety of Danish smorrebrod, and excellent hosting by the sponsors.

Of interest is the fact that Jubilaeums Akvavit comprises approximately 2% of total Akvavit sales in the world, whereas in Alberta, this brand comprises about 20% of total Akvavit sales. From now on, Jubilaeums Akvavit will be found in Edmonton at the following specialty stores: Westmount, Southgate, Capilano, Beaverhouse and Londonderry. Let's continue the tradition. Skaal!!!

* * * * *

FAMOUS DANES

Niels Bohr (1885-1962), a Danish theoretical physicist, was one of the most distinguished and imaginative scientists of modern times and won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1922. Among his many revolutionary concepts, was his bold and unprecedented theory of atomic structure which would take five pages of complex formulae and text to describe. Suffice it to say, Bohr was a brilliant scientist.

* * * * *

NEWS FROM FEDERATION OF DANISH ASSOCIATIONS IN CANADA

We have been receiving a lot of interesting correspondence and information from the Federation headquarters in Ottawa, including the following:

1. An ad to appear in Modersmaalet to promote the Federation.
2. A booklet containing a list of Danish Associations in Canada.
3. The first Annual General Meeting of the Federation will be held in Vancouver, May 29, 1982.
4. The Danish feature films on video cassettes that we had hoped would be available for purchase from Saga Kortfilm, unfortunately will not be produced.
5. In January, the Danish Club of Montreal celebrated its 60th anniversary. The Danish Lutheran Church of the Niagara Peninsula celebrated its 25th anniversary on March 21, 1982.
6. A copy of the Federation's By-laws.

We will keep you posted of the Federation's activities. The Federation's President, Rolf Buschardt Christensen, has been doing an excellent job of both increasing the Federation's profile and keeping all of the member organizations well informed.

ICELAND IN '82

Myron Kerr

Charter from Winnipeg
July 23, 1982

call

LESSARD TRAVEL
6404 - 172 Street
Edmonton, Alta. T6M 1G9
Phone 481-0223

ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

by Ninna Campbell

Hi everyone!

Now is the time for all good Icelanders to come to the aid of the Ladies' Group by gathering your items for the tombola which will be held at the Kinsmen Field House on April 18th.

For information call Beulah Arason, 466-6659, or Lucille Oddson, 466-6838.

* * * * *

The March Executive Meeting was held at the home of Chris and Ruth MacNaughton. Leif Oddson and Harold Halldorson reported on the Scandinavian Centre shareholders' meeting which they had attended and a discussion followed.

Ninna Campbell submitted the Thorrablot report with thanks from the committee to all who helped make the evening so successful. Lucille Oddson thanked the committee for arranging Thorrablot. The Club Mocambo has been booked for next year's Thorrablot, and a recommendation was made that all tickets be pre-sold, sales to close a week prior.

The Markerville picnic will be held on June 19th and 20th, and the formal ceremonies opening the Stephansson House will be held on August 7th in Markerville.

Miss Sigurbjorg Stefansson of Gimli was made an Honourary Life Member of the Society.

Next meeting will be at Solli and Shirley Sigurdson's on April 7th.

* * * * *

Alec and Pauline Mitchell were in town for a few days enjoying Alberta sunshine (such as it was). Thora and Jerry had recently returned from a holiday to New Orleans. They are kept very busy with their book store.

* * * * *

Lorne and Lillian MacPherson went to Hawaii for a mid-winter break — returned just in time to help us celebrate Thorrablot.

* * * * *

Our sympathy is extended to the MacNaughton family on the passing of Chris' brother.

* * * * *

Welcome new members Brian and Lylja Sveinbjornsson, Lorraine Olson, Eric Oddleifson, Pat Van Meer. Out of town members - Svald Dunn of Grand Centre, Alberta; Anna Arnason of Grand Centre, Alberta; Earl and Pearl Valgardson of Yellowknife.

* * * * *

Congratulations to George and Colleen Lycar (nee Fjeldsted of Gimli, Manitoba) on the birth of their daughter, Kristen Louisa Rene, born February 21st, 6 lbs. 6 oz. and 19½ ins. long.

* * * * *

The Vilhjalmssons send greetings to everyone from Iceland.

* * * * *

Charter Flight to Iceland - One only
Departs Winnipeg July 23, 1982;
Returns August 17, 1982
Fare: $699.00 for adults; $599.00 for children 2-11 years; under 2 years free, no seat
Canadian Departure Tax - $12.50;
Icelandic Departure Tax - $24.00
There is compulsory cancellation insurance of $25.00.
For more information contact Lessard Travel, 6404 - 172 Street, Edmonton (see ad in this paper) or Viking Travel, 77 - 4th Avenue, Box 1080, Gimli, Manitoba.

I hear the plane is getting booked, so if you're thinking of going to Iceland by charter, make arrangements soon!

* * * * *

Happy Easter to you all.

THE WEARIN' OF THE GREEN

by Bob Burt

There was a good turnout at the general meeting on March 17th at the Lions' Senior Citizens' Drop-in Centre. A busy evening included the election of eight delegates to the Fourth District Convention to be held at Billings, Montana, June 17th through 19th: President Ken Domier, Sev Berge, A. Jan Burt, Peter Hansen, Astrid Hope, Alan Letendre, Ruth Logan and Per Nielsen. The lodge will pay approximately $90.00 American each for the registration of the delegates.

Excellent pictures of the Winter Games were displayed in an album by Betty Haugen and were very much appreciated; pictures taken by Gunn Espeland were also shown.

In honour ofthe day, Social Committee Gail Peterson and Kay Olafson, together with Norm and Gwen Legaarden, made the night a St. Patrick's celebration. Norm and Gwen appeared in Irish costume, shamrocks were pinned on each member, and all was green.

A sing-song with an Irish lilt, led by Shirley Morsch and Jan Burt, started the program, putting everyone in the right frame of mind. Irish top hats were given to President Ken Domier and Kay Olafson. The table was set with Irish linen and lucky slippers, Irish candy, matrimonial cake — and to top it off Irish Coffee was served. On display was a decorate cake with the traditional paddy-green icing. Irish-decorated dolls were given as door prizes, and a large box of Irish candy was also drawn for. Oh yes, it was a night for the Irish, even at a Scandinavian meeting!

With its special flare, this was one of the most entertaining meetings held, and we look for even more members out to enjoy the next programme. Thanks to the Social Committee and the Legaardens it was a fine night.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

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I enclose herewith the sum of $ ..... and agree to pay the balance as follows:

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(the full purchase price to be paid before the expiration of one year)

No presentation or guarantees other than those contained in the Prospectus filed by the Scandinavian Centre Co-operative Association Limited have been made to me as an inducement to purchase the said share(s).

DATED at ....., in the Province of .....

this .....day of ....., A.D. 19.....

Purchaser's Signature .....

Witness .....

The following information is for use only in determining programs and compiling statistics as they relate to our shareholders. If you wish to leave all or any questions blank, please do so.

(PLEASE PRINT)

Full Name .....Age.....

Address .....Telephone No.....

.....Postal Code.....

Do you belong to one of the five Scandinavian Societies? Yes ..... No .....

If Yes, which one .....

Ethnic Origin .....Occupation .....

ANOTHER GREAT SPORTS WEEKEND

by Bob Burt

Credit for the tremendous success of this year's Winter Games goes to Per Nielsen and his trusty helpers, secretary Gunn Espeland and treasurer Wally Broen, along with many Solglyt members.

Solglyt President Ken Domier was in charge of registration; Keith McKay organized the transportation. Coordinators of the events are to be congratulated for the smooth-running of all the games: Curling was headed by Al Letendre; Bowling by Robin Skarbo; Skiing by Vern Steinbru; and Whist by A. Janette Burt. Borge Velling handled the Sunday brunch.

SATURDAY BANQUET

Following the full day of activities, 280 people gathered eagerly in the banquet hall on Saturday evening to ogle the tiers of food, including tantalizing desserts. The decorative display was soon in disarray as the masses fell to!

Ken Domier, President of Solglyt Lodge, was Master of Ceremonies. Following the singing of the National Anthems led by Mrs. Susan Skinner, a recent newcomer from the United States, Norwegian table grace was offered by Gary Johnson.

Following the supper, guest speakers were introduced: International President of Sons of Norway, O. Marshall Moy; District Counsellor, Kermit Lilja; District Director, Roy Swanberg; and District Director, Gary Johnson. Each speaker addressed the gathering, congratulating the lodges on the improved image of Sons of Norway, and commenting on the comradeship, sportsmanship, and the advancement of Norwegian culture and heritage; it was said that Norwegians are the fastest growing ethnic group in North America. Kermit Lilja commented that Albertans are the leaders in sporting activities and an inspiration to the American clubs. Each speaker noted the success and enthusiasm evident at these Winter Games.

The evening was completed with a dance.

SUNDAY BRUNCH:

On Sunday morning the masses trouped to the Parkview Community Hall for brunch; pancakes, eggs, sausages, juice and coffee were on the menu and vanished quickly.

Following the meal Per Nielsen took the stand to announce the Games winners and present them with awards. Both the Curling and Bowling trophies went to Aspelund Lodge, Red Deer; the Skiing trophy is again in the hands of Solglyt Lodge, Edmonton.

MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE:

Throughout the weekend tickets were sold on the many prizes which had been generously donated by Solglyt members, thereby providing for the financial success of this year's Games. Winners were: Troll books (donated by Ross Anderson Agencies) — Al Letendre, Gary Johnson and Sev Berge; Ski Hat (donated by Kaare Askildt) — Irene Sorgaard; Cross-Country Skis (donated by Kaare Askildt) — Kris Nyhus; Travel Bar (donated by Gary Johnson) — Donna Johnson; Shower Head (donated by Gary Johnson) — Jens Kolbjornsrud; Rosemaled Wallboard (donated by Harry Huser) — Olga Terning; Needle-Point Cushion (donated by A. Jan Burt) — Selma Domier; Hand-Hooked Norwegian Wall Hanging (donated by A. Jan and Bob Burt) — Betty Travis; Norwegian painting (donated by artist Chris Dreyer) — Con Peterson.

SPORTS WEEKEND '83:

Following trophy presentations, Aspelund Lodge members paraded into the hall with placards and flags to announce that next year's winter games will be held at Red Deer in early March. Radisson, Saskatchewan, is already represented in the Games, and it is anticipated that if Outlook and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, carry out their intention to form Sons of Norway Lodges, both those centres could also have representatives in the 1983 Games.

As the door is closed on the 1982 Sports Weekend, all members of Solglyt are congratulated on the hugely successful presentation. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN RED DEER!

Organizers and workers from Solglyt Lodge, Edmonton

International present, O. Marshall Moy

District Counsellor Kermit Lilja

District Four Director Roy Swanberg

District Four Director Gary Johnson

Solglyt President Ken Domier

FIGURING OUT THE SWEDES

(REPRINTED FROM KLM'S FLIGHT MAGAZINE)

Mats Hallvarsson reckons the Swedes are the world's most well-documented people. And he has the statistics to prove it

My number is 45 11 06 1410. It's printed on all of my identification papers, insurance papers, and any and all official papers having to do with my person. Whenever I have to deal with the authorities, they ask for my number, and I rattle it off: *personnummer* 45 11 06 1410 — my Swedish ID.

Few people in this world have the privilege of being counted as much as the Swedes. Having a number of your very own from birth builds character, you know. That little slip of paper with the number on it is perched there on the crib after only an hour in the obstetrics ward. There are plenty of guys named Mats. But there is only one No. 45 11 06 1410.

After receiving their first numbers, Swedes proceed to live lives deluged with figures (for example, we men — the ones with an odd penultimate digit in our number — are going to live to be 72.2 years old, longer than any other males in the world). Everything we do will be calibrated, adjusted for seasonal fluctuation, rounded off, with the median determined, in one mighty ongoing gush of statistics.

We are maniacs on statistics: we are measured, inspected, and checked to the limit of endurance. Sometimes beyond. I still remember the questionnaire in high school that asked: How many times have you had sexual intercourse? Uncertain as to just what sexual intercourse might entail, I manfully filled in 15, the number of years I had lived.

Where this perverse interest in statistics has led must be apparent to anyone who visits the Swedish Parliament *(riksdag)*. Ideologies are dead, and the members of Parliament sound like a drawing in the cash lottery: they size up and measure off their opponents in terms of numbers while their own great accomplishments are accounted for in illustrious inventories.

As a result, the Swedes are the world's most well-documented people. Take, for example, our sexual habits, the guarantee of our future existence. The whole thing started with sex, the statistics say. Our wonderful commission on tables initiated the statistics frenzy by being first in the world with population statistics. In 1761 — a good harvest year showing a population increase — the commission issued the following sexy comments: "Soon farmhands and maids were prepared to take to the marriage bed, even as the love of those in wedlock began to burn brighter." Nowadays, unfortunately, married people's love doesn't burn so brightly. Statistics indicate it will take as long as 693 years before there will be twice as many Swedes here on earth. In our neighbouring country, Norway, it will take 231 years to double the number of Norwegians, and Ireland, on the other hand, will double its population in only 63 years.

This is only one side of the question. In Sweden we're able to boast of only 5.5 weddings per 1,000 inhabitants, the lowest rate in the industrialised West. The Dutch top the European ratings with 8.1, and the Spanish are close behind with 7.7. This means that one out of every three Swedes is born out of wedlock. And we don't give birth so often these days: only 1.65 children per woman, one of the world's lowest nativity rates.

It's easy to lie with statistics of course, and that is just about what we have done. Other figures report that love is burning brightly among Swedes aged from 18 to 60. Between 50 and 60 per cent do it (as George Gershwin put it) 11 to 20 times each month. This lends ample support to our international reputation of being sex maniacs, which Gallup International reaffirms. In response to the question of whether premarital sex should be avoided at any cost, only four per cent of Swedish young people between the ages of 18 and 24 answered yes. In the USA the response was no less than 23 per cent, in the UK 14 per cent, and in France ten per cent. To the question of whether it is okay even if a person is not in love, 38 per cent of the Swedish young people answered yes, way ahead of West Germany, with 23 per cent. In other words, sex may well be considered one of the Swedes' favourite pastimes. It offers the relaxation they don't get from going to parties — only 13 per cent consider this the best way to spend their free time compared with the party-happy Italians' 18 per cent. Least social are the British with eight per cent.

Despite the fact that we — with our 348 TVs per 1,000 inhabitants — have the highest number of idiot boxes per capita in Europe, Swedes as TV viewers come in only third after Italy and England where 25 and 23 per cent respectively think TV watching is more fun than anything else a person can do after work. The opinion is shared by 21 per cent of us.

When Swedes reach maturity they enter the celebrated welfare society. There they can count on paying higher taxes than in any other country — 60 per cent in marginal income tax on an average industrial worker's wages. And they will spend $5,580 per inhabitant on private consumption (far less than the $8,420 of the Swiss, the $6,200 of the Americans, and on a par with the $5,550 for Holland, $5,750 for West Germany, and $5,440 for France). They will also, of course, answer statistical questionnaires.

The Swedes are happy anyhow. Most contented in the world, actually. Thirty-three per cent are extremely happy, and 32 per cent are content with their standard of living. This is twice as many as the average for the Common Market countries where the least contented are the French with only seven per cent very satisfied. Only 15 per cent of Swedes are discontented as opposed to 47 per cent of the French.

They seldom worry about money (43 per cent) or extremely little (40 per cent). They surprise us again in their reply to the question of whether they take life as it comes: as many as 64 per cent answer yes, the highest proportion in Europe. Least happy-go-lucky are the Italians, with 51 per cent taking each day as it comes. Moreover, only 24 per cent worry a lot, as opposed to no less than 50 per cent in France. Only one per cent of all Swedes think their lives are very miserable, which is the lowest rate in the world.

Despite the fact that they are satisfied with their lives and with their jobs (55 per cent are very satisfied in contrast to 25 per cent in France — once again a first), nobody wants to get out and go travelling more than Swedes. Eighty-four per cent want to get away (naturally the most in the world), and they want to go to the United States (23 per cent), to Spain (13 per cent), to England (12 per cent), and to the Soviet Union (nine per cent).

However, not everything in the welfare state is in such good shape, if we are to believe our statistics (in this case from 1970). With 99.7 mental patients per 1,000 inhabitants, the Swedes are the world's most mentally disturbed people, head and shoulders above countries such as the USA (30.4), the UK (31.9), and our neighbours the Danes (63.8). Nonetheless, people do not go about hanging themselves in such numbers as have for a long time been claimed — Denmark, West Germany and Switzerland have higher suicide rates than the Swedish one of 20 per 100,000 inhabitants.

But, say our friends knowledgeable about statistics, the reason Sweden has so many mental patients is that its mental health system is so well developed that it can accommodate more than those of other countries. And what *is* mental illness, these days? The actual situation is not clearly reflected in the tables. But the figure on what Swedes pay for publicly administered health care no doubt does tell us something. Number One in the world again with at least Skr 2,000 ($500) per person in 1975, exactly twice as much as in England or the United States.

Now that we're into the area of disease and health care, let's clear up the Swedes' problematical relation to alcohol. Actually, they drink less than almost anyone else in Europe. Only two per cent of the population over 15 years of age put away more than 6.3 ounces of pure alcohol a day. That compares with nine per cent of the French, 7.4 per cent of Italians and 4.8 per cent of West Germans.

It explains of course, why they generally feel so healthy. Few are bothered by recurring headaches (27 per cent, against 42 per cent in England), and nobody else suffers from so few toothaches — only four per cent, compared with twice as many in England. Security and personal protection are also very extensive. The number of accidents is as low as 3.9 per 1,000 inhabitants. (It must be extremely dangerous to live in Italy with 25.4 accidents per 1,000 inhabitants and even worse in West Germany with 47.7).

The fact that we have such good teeth cannot be explained away by particularly healthy eating habits. Perhaps our consumption of fresh vegetables — the lowest in Europe — can be offset by our consumption of frozen food — the highest — and we drink more juice than anybody else in the whole world. Ice cream? We polish off twice as much as people in such ice cream-needy countries as Italy, France, and Spain. We like sugar and use 99 pounds a year per person, twice as much as the Norwegians but far less than the Dutch, record holders with 129 pounds per person per year.

No, our white teeth can probably be related to the fact that we buy 1.3 toothbrushes per person annually. "How do you make a toothbrush last almost a whole year?" one might ask. The Danes know: they require only one per person each year. Even thriftier are the Swiss who make one brush last for nearly two years and the Italians who buy 0.4 toothbrushes per person a year.

On the basis of this, however, we dare not draw the conclusion that Swedes tend to be super clean. True: 100 per cent of all Swedish households buy soap as opposed to 86 per cent in Switzerland, 98 per cent in Holland, and 97 per cent in the USA. But we are not alone in having 91 per cent of our adults use shampoo: so do the same proportion of adults in Japan and Canada. The consequences are soon apparent: 15 per cent of Swedes have dandruff compared with 14 per cent of Norwegians (the skiing), 13 per cent of West Germans (open Porsches on the autobahn), and an equal share of Belgians (Brussels is Europe's rainiest town).

Anything else you'd like to know? Twenty-five per cent of Swedish women take an A cup (small, that is), and two per a D cup (the giant size) — we have the smallest number of Europe's biggest breasts.

Ninety-five per cent of Swedish men shave regularly, 60 per cent with electric razors. Eighteen per cent of Swedish women over 15 years of age own a diamond.

A Swede sees 3.1 movies a year.

Sweden has won 413.5 medals at the Olympic games compared to 463 for France and 547.5 for England.

As you can see, it's all there neatly documented in tables and curves. You may just be quietly wondering what's the use of all this? What are the inscrutable questions for which all these figures provide answers? Believe it or not, there are figures on that too. Swedish companies have to deliver 49 million pieces of firsthand information and reply to 120 forms per company per year. This means the government is asking them at least a thousand million questions annually.

No wonder Sweden takes third place (together with Japan) in terms of the number of first-place ratings in that major compilation of tables entitled *The Book of World Rankings* — just behind the two giants, the United States and the Soviet Union.

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APRIL 15, 1982

SEVEN LODGES REPRESENTED

by Bob Burt

The Sons of Norway 1982 Sports Weekend held in Edmonton on March 13th and 14th centred around the Mayfield Inn. Members converged on Edmonton from the seven prairie Lodges: Grande Prairie, Red Deer, Camrose, Calgary, Claresholm, Edmonton, and Radisson, Saskatchewan. More than 280 members participated, making this the largest enthusiastic, sportsminded gathering ever of Sons of Norway.

On Friday evening entries were registered at the Mayfield Inn, then gathered in the large banquet hall to mingle with old friends, rivals and new members. Music was provided by the Freeloaders for dancing and socializing. Tables were filled with Scandianvian goodies, and the calories flowed out of control as everyone sampled favourites.

CURLING:

On Saturday morning curlers were taken to the Sportex where 22 rinks competed; International President, O. Marshall Moy, threw the first rock.

The curling entry was the largest ever as 88 enthusiastic brush and broom pushers got down to business: 9 rinks from Edmonton; 6 from Calgary; 3 from Grande Prairie; 2 from Claresholm; and single rinks from Red Deer and Camrose. The Red Deer entry was the winner, accumulating 40 points under skip Vic Pederson supported by Cliff Hansen, Ardis Jorgensen and Marily Sveen. Blue-Ribbon winners were the Grande Prairie rinks, with an average of 34 points. Calgary placed third with 26 points, and Edmonton fourth with 20.8 points.

The three games curled by each rink were played in record time, and members were back at the hotel just as the hospitality room opened.

BOWLING:

Bowlers came in droves to the Bonnie Doon Bowling Alleys on Saturday, as 20 teams comprising 100 ardent members commenced hurling the balls down the lanes. International President, O. Marshall Moy, and District Counsellor, Kermit Lilja, opened the games, each scoring the same with his ball. There were 7 teams from Calgary, 5 from Edmonton, 4 from Camrose, and 2 each from Red Deer and Claresholm. Each bowled six strings, and the numerous lanes allowed members to play non-stop to the completion of the event. The Lodge with the highest total six-game average was Red Deer — 5,842 points — taking the trophy and Red Ribbons all around. Camrose placed second with 5,819; Edmonton third with 5,792; Calgary fourth with 5,789; followed closely by Claresholm with 5,775.

Calgary's No. 6 team (Gary Auvigne, Valerie Nielson, Roy Swanberg, Ric Merritt and Hjordis Sneltvet) scored the highest individual team six-game total — 5,899. The ladies' high single of 316 as well as high triple of 1,444, was achieved by Calgary bowler Valerie Nielson. The men's high single of 340 and high triple of 1,450 were bowled by Barry Anderson of Red Deer.

SKIING:

Skiers left the hotel on Saturday morning at 9:15 for lower Gold Bar Park to race on perfectly-groomed trails in shirt-sleeve weather and excellent snow. The events went off with precision, handled by chief starter and timer Wally Broen. Finish timers and recorders were Bob Johns and Harold Nasset. A total of 27 members competed in Men's, Women's, Junior Ladies', Women's and Men's Veteran events, and the Edmonton group from Solglyt Lodge won the trophy with flying colours.

In the Senior Men's 13-km. race, Ron Nichols was in first place, running the course in 58.53 minutes, followed by Einar Viddal in 6l.3l minutes, then Kaare Askildt — all from Edmonton. In Men's Veteran races Solglyt's Kris Nyhus completed the 13-km. race in 62.01 minutes for the Gold. Clarence Iverson of Radisson was named second, while third went to Harold Vesterdal of Grande Prairie.

The ladies raced the 6½-km. course in excellent form, Maggie Nichols completing the loop in 36.28 minutes, followed by Coco Barnet in 37.30 and Bernice Nyhus in 42.55 — all from Edmonton. The 2-km. Little Junior Miss race was won by Anne Broen of Edmonton in 11.32 minutes for a gold medal. The Women's Veterans 6½-km. race was won by Solglyt's Betty Broen in 48.45 minutes; Nancy Iverson of Radisson completed the course in 56.43 minutes.

After the races a large container of hot chili prepared by Tom Haugen was relished by the competitors in the out-door-event.

WHIST:

Five tables of players contested the friendly Norwegian Whist event. High lady was Bea Huser of Edmonton; Morley Lindstrand of Red Deer was high man. Second-place winners included Irene Sorgaard of Red Deer and Svend Tychsen of Edmonton. Low woman was Orla Tychsen, while low man was Les Wadey of Red Deer. This is an event worth entering for members who are not that athletically inclined to enjoy the fun and friendship of the weekend.

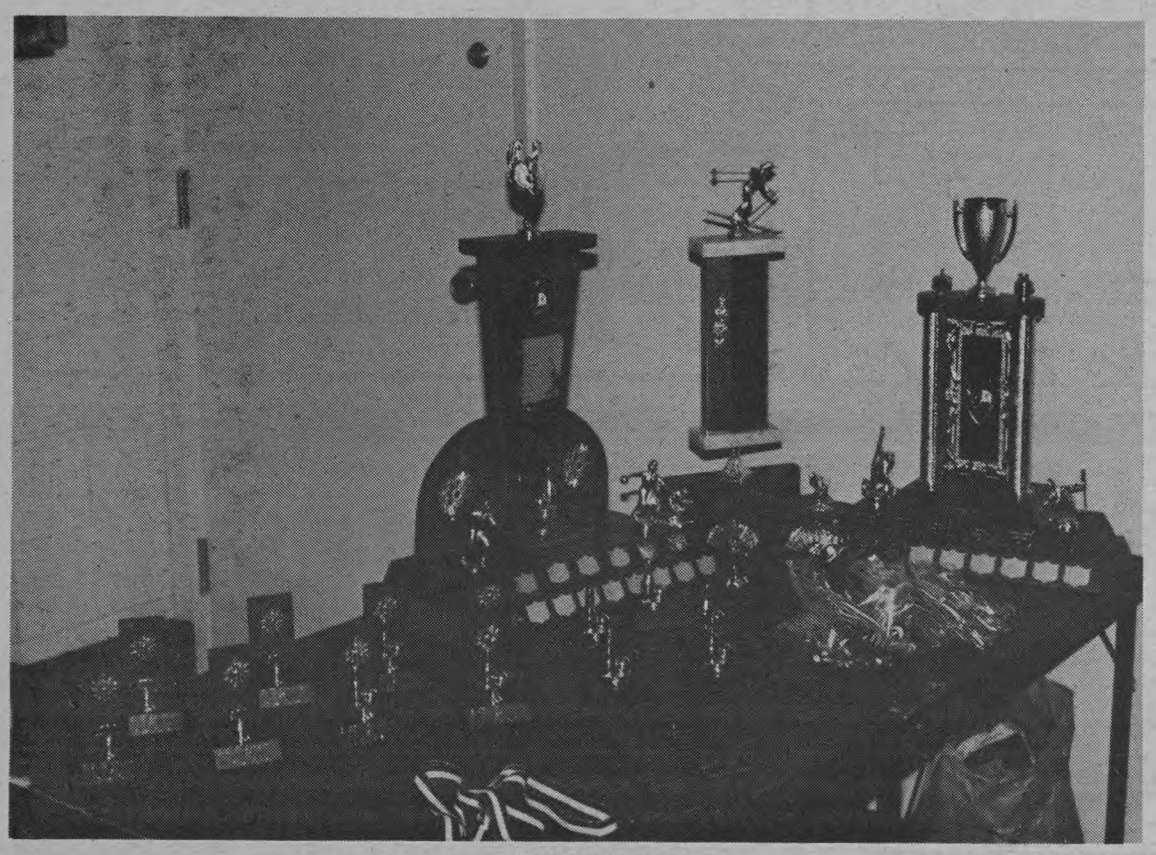
Lunch was served in the game room, with the competitors enjoying the relaxation.

Robin Skarbo presents trophy to Valerie Neilson of Calgary

Ski competition winners — Vern Steinbru, Sports Director, Coc Barnet, Kris Nyhus, Betty Broen, Anne Broen, Per Nielsen, Games Chairman

Whist winners — A. Jan Burt, Orla Tychsen, Svend Tychsen, Bea Huser, Morley Lindstrand, Irene Sorgaard, Les Wadey

Bowlers receive awards



The trophies

FINLANDIA VODKA

Nordic Sun and Tropic Breeze

Tropic Breeze
1 Part Finlandia Vodka
3 Parts Tomato juice
and a few dashes
of Tabasco

Nordic Sun
3,5 Parts Finlandia Vodka
1,5 Parts Dry Vermouth
Shake with cracked
ice — add a slice of
lemon

On the Rocks
The pure taste of
Finlandia Vodka
is at its best in
this drink.